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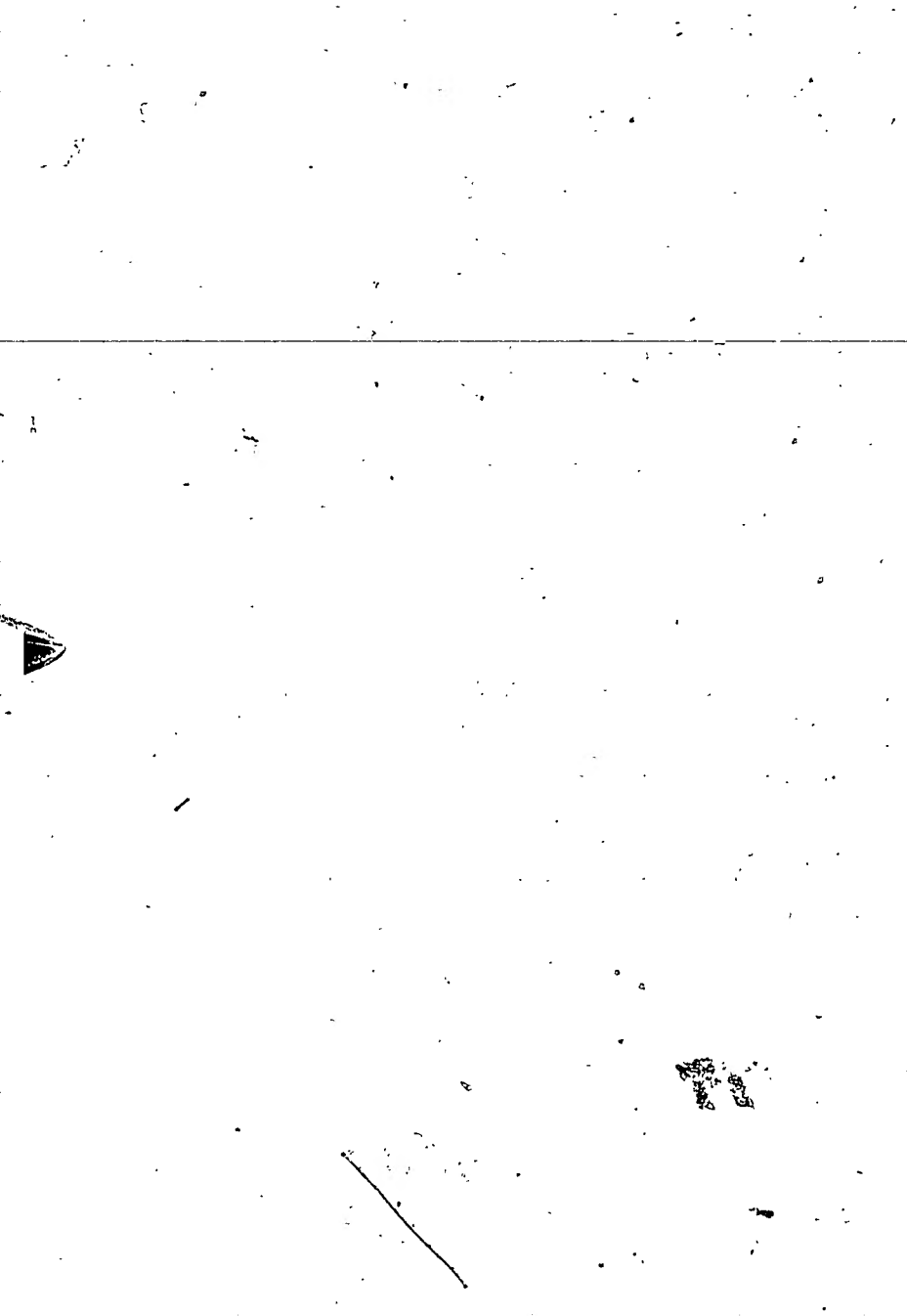


# THE STREETS OF WINNIPEG

BY MARY HISLOP



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# THE STREETS OF WINNIPEG

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## PREFACE.

By Principal Mackinnon, D.D., Presbyterian College,  
Halifax, N. S.

Nothing was more familiar in the days of our fathers than the tinder-box and flint with which they ignited their fires before the advent of matches. These articles were to be found in every house and were obtainable in every country store. About 1834 matches came into general vogue, and now, hunt as you please, it is extremely difficult to find a flint, a steel, or a tinder-box. What is commonplace to-day becomes historical curiosity to-morrow, sought after with great diligence and secured only with much cost.

This is specially true of information about the beginning of a great city. The millions who in after days will tread the streets of Winnipeg will wonder why in a flat country there should be a crook in Main Street. Who was Bannatyne? Who was McDermott? And how there comes to be a Logan Avenue? To the old-timers these things may be so well known that it is needless to put them in a book. The familiar forms of the founders of Winnipeg are still present to their eye. But

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alas, for the transitoriness of all things human, the commonplace of to-day, like the flint and tinder-box, will be almost beyond reach to-morrow.

Mrs. Hislop has therefore rendered a very real service to the history of the city by gathering up so many of these interesting facts before they escaped the fleeting memory of man. Nor has any one a greater right to speak. She has been through it all; she has seen the dog team set out on its long frozen journey over the empty prairie, and she has also seen the modern aeroplane float over the thronged streets of a busy metropolis. Few cities have a more romantic tale of bloodless progress than the one that has risen so marvelously on the banks of the Red River. It is chapters in this interesting story that Mrs. Hislop has given us in this little book.

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### FOREWORD.

This little book is not intended in the least as a history of Winnipeg, but only to explain how certain names of early days have become permanently attached to our streets.

The late John Gunn was the first to explain to the author why the Main Street was so crooked. He said, "As the river in early days was the highway and was considered the front of each man's estate, so as the river bends the streets take on its angles." He also explained the numbers, that Main Street is two hundred on every avenue that crosses it, less than two hundred is east of Main, and any number greater than two hundred is west of Main Street. The streets are numbered from the Assiniboine River and the avenues from the Red River, so it is easy to tell the locations.

We have abundance of names to draw upon before the worthy ones who made our history shall be fitly commemorated.

For the historical facts embodied in this work I am indebted very largely to the following authors:—Dr. Bryce. Hon. Donald Gunn, Robt. B. Hill, Rev. R. McBeth, Dr. O. Donald, and others. I also thank Robert C. Johnstone, LL.D., of the Reference Library in the City of Winnipeg for all his kindness to me during my researches.

MARY HISLOP.

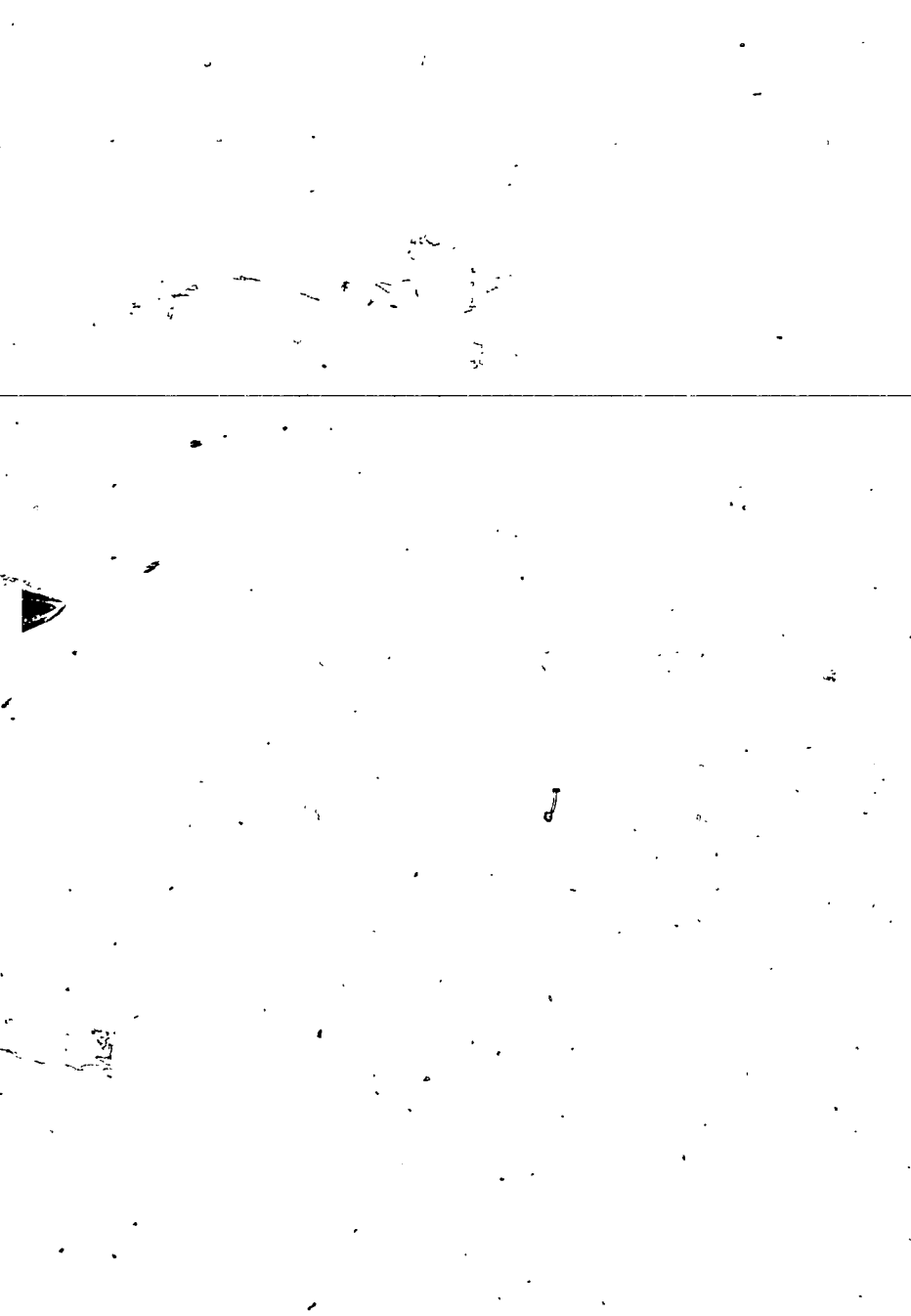


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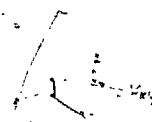
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# FORT GARRY

1806 The first fort named Gibraltar built by the North-West Company.  
1816 Fort Gibraltar destroyed.  
1822 The second Fort Gibraltar renamed Fort Garry after the amalgamation of the Hudson's Bay and North-West Co's  
1835 Fort Garry rebuilt with stone walls running 200 feet East and West and 240 feet North and South.  
1850 Walls extended northward and this gateway erected.  
1862 Fort sold and walls excepting this gateway demolished.  
1897 Gateway and park presented by the Hudson's Bay Company to the City of Winnipeg.  
1909 THIS PLATE PRESENTED BY THE CANADIAN CLUB OF WINNIPEG

This plate speaks for itself and commemorates a visit of  
Lord Strathcona in 1909



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## PREFACE TO THE EARLY FORTS.

During the years between 1735 and 1835 six forts were built between the limits of what is now called the City of Winnipeg.

In 1731 de la Verandrye came up the Red River (Riviere Rouge) from Lake Winnipeg (Lac Guinenique or muddy water) as far as the mouth of the Assiniboine or "Stony Sioux" River. La Verandrye was therefore the first white man to reach this land. He built a fort which was probably nothing more than a rude log hut in a clearing among the timber on the south bank of the Assiniboine close to the Red. This fort was soon abandoned as the situation was too open to the attacks from the Sioux, even the point of land on which it stood must now be under water, as part of the hundred and fifty feet of river bank has crumbled into the water.

Such scanty history as can be gleaned of the times between the visit of La Verandrye and the end of the century is very interesting, but it does not concern our city.

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### FORT GIBRALTAR.

In the year 1806 the North West Fur Company built a fort at the mouth of the Assiniboine River on the north side close to the Red River, to which its principal gateway faced: this fort was called Gibraltar. Most of this site is now under water, the "Warlike humor of the builders" rather than its defences induced them to name it "Fort Gibraltar." The stockade of this fort was fifteen feet high and strongly made of oak trees split in two, which confirms the statement that in early days "the river banks were well wooded for a depth of about half a mile with oak, elm, and poplar trees."

Rivalry between the North West and Hudson's Bay fur companies became so keen from the beginning of last century, that Hudson's Bay stock fell from 250 to 50 per cent. Lord Selkirk, a Scottish nobleman, taking advantage of this, purchased a controlling interest in the company and obtained 110,000 square miles of land, comprising what is now the southern part of Manitoba, and the northern part of Dakota and Minnesota. This was the district of Assiniboia. Here he proposed to settle about one thousand families of Crofters who had been rendered homeless when several large estates in the highlands of Scotland, notably that of the Duke of Sutherland, were converted into sheep ranches.

Forts were dotted plentifully over the District of Assiniboia even as early as 1800. There was one at Grand Forks, one (and later two) at Pembina, and Fort Gibraltar on the Red River, Qu'Appelle, Brandon House,

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Souris House, and Fort La Reine (Portage la Prairie) on the Assiniboine River.

Miles MacDonnell was appointed Governor of Assiniboia in 1811 and given charge of the colony.

The first settlers, numbering about eighty persons, of whom about a dozen were Irish from Sligo, reached the Red River in August, 1812, more than a year after leaving Scotland. They immediately began erecting houses in the timber near the river bank, between Rupert Street and Logan Avenue. "Victoria Gardens" marks the spot now, but it was long known as "Colony Gardens." A large house was built for Governor Macdonnell and Sheriff Spencer; also a storehouse, a farmhouse and several cabins.

In 1813 some twenty more colonists arrived, and in 1814 another hundred arrived, making a total of two hundred souls.

Unfortunately for Lord Selkirk, a clever man named Duncan Cameron, being placed by the North West Company in charge of Fort Gibraltar in 1814, persuaded about one hundred and thirty-four of these colonists to leave Red River and find homes in Ontario, whither he himself conducted them in June 1815. The remainder of the colony were soon forced by the French halfbreeds to retire to Norway House and abandon their homes and growing crops. With the exception of the Governor's house all these buildings were burned to the ground.

Colin Robertson and twenty voyageurs of the Hudson's Bay Company were hastily sent to the relief of the colonists and conducted them safely back to Red River



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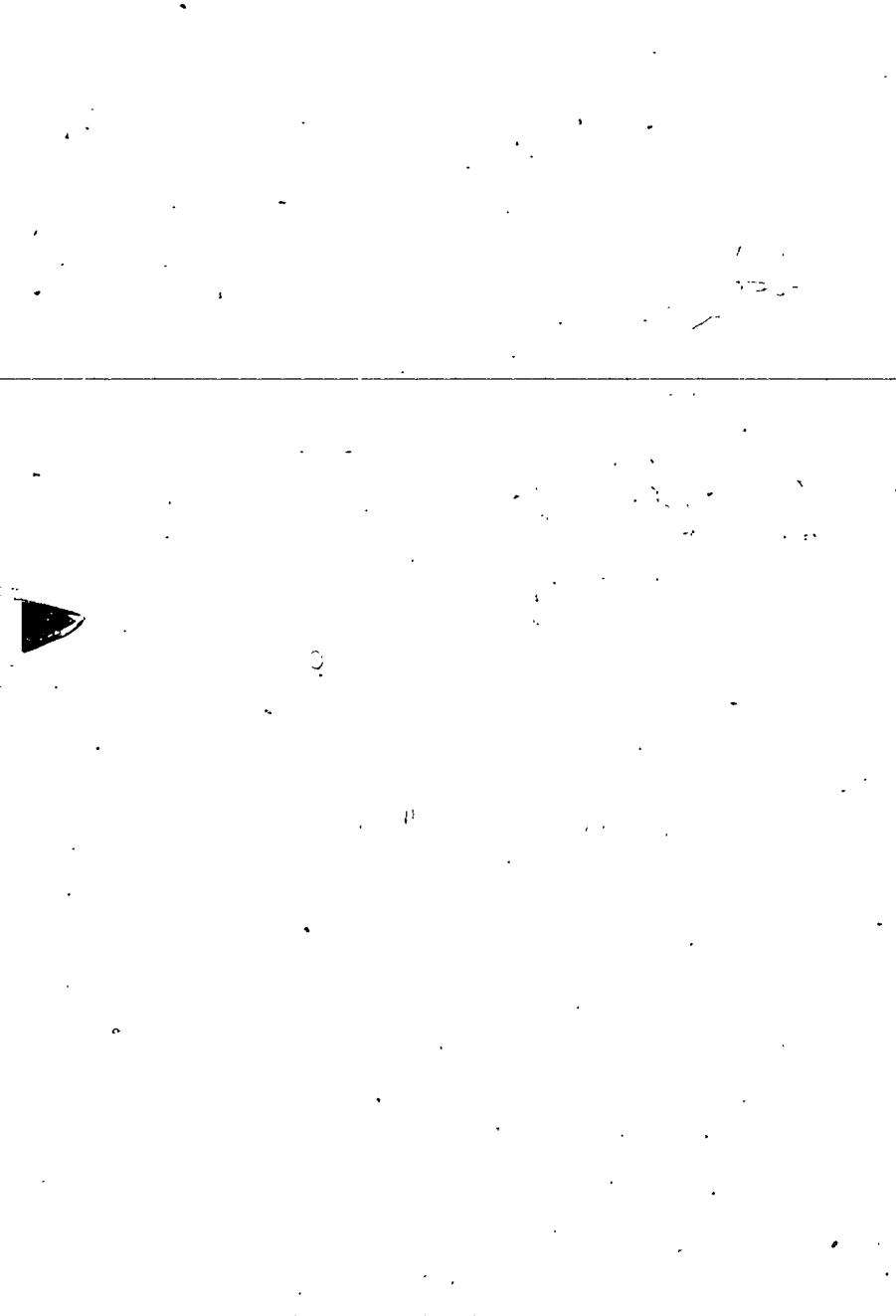
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in August, 1815. About one hundred new settlers arrived from Scotland by way of Hudson Bay in October of the same year. The old houses were rebuilt, the Governor's house strengthened, new buildings erected and the whole place made to assume a much more military appearance and named Fort Douglas; "Douglas" was one of Lord Selkirk's family names. The location of this fort can be found to-day (although no trace of it remains) at the foot of George Street on the south side, at Logan's Creek, which once emptied into the Red River at the foot of Robert Street.

Governor Robert Semple arrived at Fort Douglas in the autumn of the year 1815. In April of the next spring, 1816, having reason to believe that Fort Gibraltar was to become a rendezvous of the great North West Company to exterminate the Selkirk settlers, Governor Semple captured and demolished it. Duncan Cameron was taken prisoner and sent to Norway House. The stockade and buildings were pulled down and the material floated down the river and used for strengthening Fort Douglas and building new houses.



Fort Garry 1822  
The second Fort Gibraltar renamed Fort Garry after the Amalgamation of the  
Hudson's Bay and North West Companies.





Fort Garry in 1835

Fort Garry rebuilt with stone walls 280 feet east and west and 240 feet north and south.



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### SEVEN OAKS.

Now occurred that sad chapter in the history of this struggling colony, the massacre at Seven Oaks.

About six o'clock on the evening of July 19, 1816, the watchman at Fort Douglas gave the alarm that a large party of Half-breeds were crossing the prairie about two miles to the westward from the Assiniboine River towards the Red River. At once it was surmised that the force intended to attack the settlers at work on their farms in Kildonan. Governor Semple with twenty-eight men rode out to interview them. They met at a place where seven oak trees had given the name of Seven Oaks. Just how it all happened has never been very clear, but in half an hour the Governor and twenty of his men were dead. Their bodies lay on the plains till daylight, when Chief Pequis, a Cr e Indian, and his braves brought the bodies to the fort in carts and buried them under the trees on the bank of Logan's Creek.

On June 20th, the next day, the half-breeds under Cuthbert Grant took possession of Fort Douglas in the name of the North West Company.

In the meantime Lord Selkirk at Montreal had been informed of trouble at Red River by letter brought to his hand by M. Ladj modiere, a trapper. Lord Selkirk was on his way westward when he heard of "Seven Oaks" and sent forward the "De Meuron" Regiment of eighty-six men. They easily captured Fort Douglas one stormy night in March, 1817. Lord Selkirk arrived (for the first and only time) at Red River in June, 1817. The settlers had already returned. During this visit Lord

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Selkirk definitely located the colonists on strips of land in Kildonan and also obtained his title deeds from the Indians.

The Governor continued to live in Fort Douglas although it ceased to be a fort after 1821. The whole property was bought from the Hudson's Bay Company by Robert Logan in 1835, who occupied some of the buildings till 1854.

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### FORT GARRY.

In 1835 Governor Christie began the erection of a third and last Fort Garry, the situation of the lower Fort being found impracticable. This last fort was built overlooking the Assiniboine River diagonally towards the Red, at the south end of Main Street, which its east and north walls crossed. It was solid Masonry throughout, with large corner bastions and gates of castellated form. The walls lay 240 feet by 280 feet. It contained a courthouse, where the Council of Assiniboia met from 1835 to 1869. Some famous history occurred within and around its walls. In the boom of 1882 the Fort was sold for an enormous sum, the days of its usefulness as a fort being past. The walls were torn down to straighten Main Street, nothing remains but the north gate, which can be seen carefully preserved in a lovely little park.

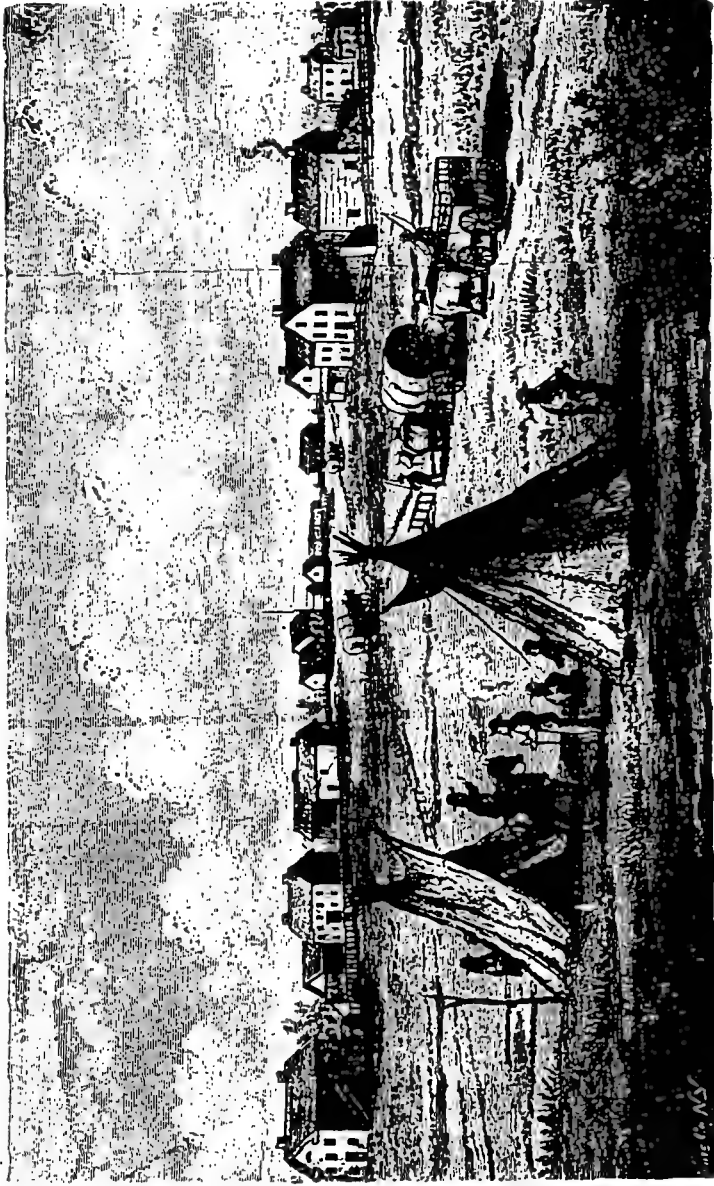


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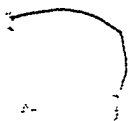
### LOWER FORT GARRY.

The Company felt that a more peaceful centre for trade should be found closer to the English and away from the disturbing Metis on the Upper Red and Assiniboine, and a site considered to be at the head of river navigation was chosen just below St. Andrews Rapids. A handsome stone fort, with high stone walls, bastions and stone buildings complete was erected there on the west bank of the Red River in 1831. This fort is even still known locally as "The Stone Fort." It stands in good preservation about twenty miles north of Winnipeg, the only Fort remaining.



Winnipeg in 1870

At this time there were two villages Fort Garry of Hudson's Bay and the trader's quarters to the north.



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### OLD FORT GARRY.

In 1821 the North West and Hudson's Bay Companies ended their disastrous rivalry by uniting as one Company under the name of the latter. The union resulted in the building of a new fort on a site south of Fort Gibraltar, closer to the Assiniboine and facing the Red River. Much of the ground on which it stood has been undermined and fallen into the river. The fort was named for Nicholas Garry, an influential director of the Hudson's Bay Company. It was nearly square, measuring two hundred feet or more on each side and containing all the buildings necessary for a large fur trade. After the new Fort Garry was built in 1835 this old fort was used for ten years as the buildings of a large experimental farm operated by the Hudson's Bay Company till 1842, after an uneventful history the Fort was pulled down in 1852.

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### ST. BONIFACE.

The Company of Germain soldiers, "The De Meuron Regiment," sent up from Montreal in 1817 by Lord Selkirk for the purpose of recapturing Fort Douglas from the North West Company, was retained by him for the protection of the colony. He settled the company on the east bank of the Red River, north of the mouth of the Seine, where they remained till driven away by the great flood of 1826. This suburb they named St. Boniface after their patron Saint. When the first Catholic mission was established in the same place, Father Provencher and Father Dumoulin, in 1818, applied the name to the Parish. The names of these two Priests are given to two important avenues in St. Boniface. Father Provencher was much beloved by his people. In 1844 he became the first Roman Catholic Bishop, which position he held till 1835, when Archbishop Tache, whose name is given to a street in St. Boniface, succeeded him. Here, too, are the Roman Catholic School's Convents and Cathedral, also a very historic graveyard.

### FIDLER'S FORT.

A fort about which very little is known, was built by Peter Fidler in 1817-18 as a Hudson's Bay trading post. It stood between McDermott Street and Notre Dame Street, a few hundred yards from the river. It contained a large house for the trader and eight other buildings.

## PREFACE TO THE STREETS

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Beginning with the name "Winnipeg," we find it was first applied to the lake of that name by the French explorer La Verandrye. This was in 1731, and on these ancient maps the name is written Winnipique. The word is of Indian origin and means "Muddy Water." In 1736, five years later, La Verandrye succeeded in travelling overland from the Lake of the Woods to the junction of the rivers now known as the Red and the Assiniboine. On the south side of the Assiniboine (so called from the Indian tribe living there) he built a small fort with a wooden pallisade around it for self-protection, and as a trading post for fur. This he named Fort Rouge, or the Red Fort, a name which is still applied to the whole district. The following summer he journeyed westward along the Assiniboine for some sixty miles, where the town of Portage la prairie now stands, and built Fort Reine. La Verandrye was looking for the great western waterway of which the Indians spoke and

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travelled southward. He never returned to this land again. For the remainder of that century the North West Fur Company carried on an irregular trade west of the great lakes, but towards the end of the century, in 1796, a company of gentlemen adventurers trading into Hudson's Bay began building inland forts, one of which was near the junction of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers. In 1806 the North West Fur Company built Fort Gibraltar near the ancient site of Fort Rouge. For years bitter hostilities were actively maintained by the rival forts and companies until in 1816 the climax was reached in the battle of Seven Oaks. In 1822 the Governor Sir George Simpson succeeded in affecting an amalgamation of the two companies. The name of the Fort was Fort Garry in honor of Nicholas Garry, a man sent out from London to affect an amicable settlement between the two rival companies, and in memory of his name it was called Fort Garry. He was a member of the Hudson's Bay Council. Excepting to the Hudson's Bay Company, little of this vast prairie was known until 1812, when Lord Selkirk brought out a small colony of Scotch emigrants who settled on the banks of the Red River upon lands which he had purchased for them from the Company.

For the mutual protection and sociability it was thought advisable that the houses of these colonists be as close together as possible, accordingly the land was divided into narrow strips having from twenty to forty rods of river frontage and stretching back four miles to the prairie. This district was called Kildonan, so named from Kildonan in Scotland, the far away land of their

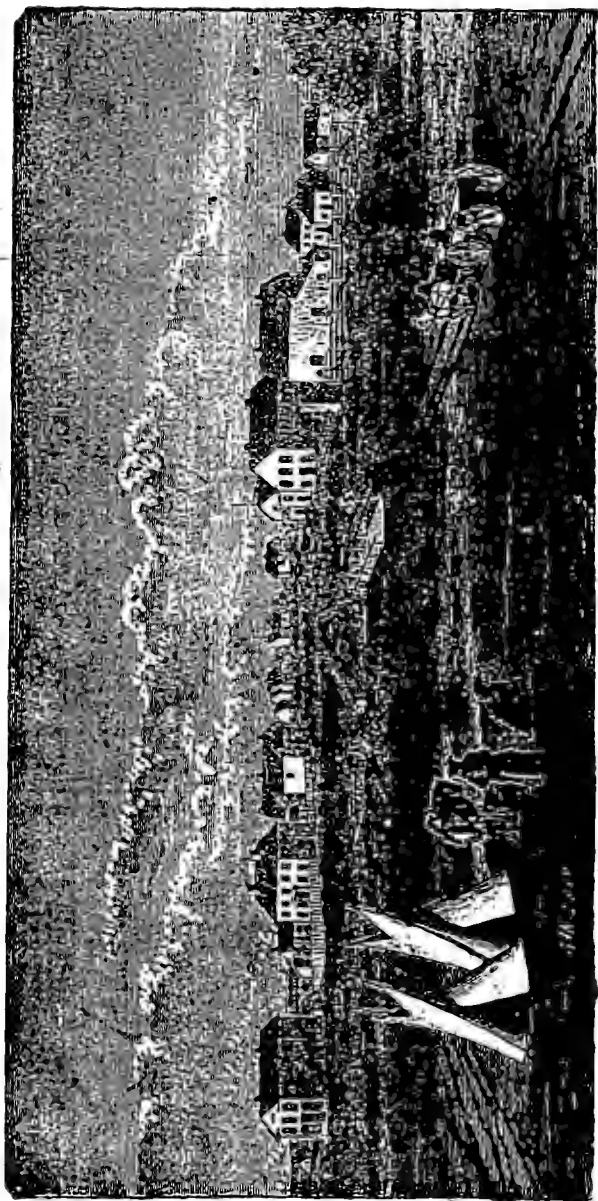


The Old Post Office was on Lombard St. The early buildings were on the east side of Main.

A







The old village north of Colony Creek. This was the trader's centre in 1871.



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birth. a name still retained by this district, consequently Kildonan was the earliest settlement, and is still a most interesting and historic place, with its old graveyard and old church. Although names like Inkster, Polson, Mathison, Gunn, Sinclair and Macbeth ring very familiarly in our ears, yet it is the traders who subsequently located between Kildonan and the Hudson's Bay Fort at the junction of the rivers, whose names have become most familiar in the nomenclature of our streets.

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Main Street is a long trail, not a surveyed street, it was the outcome of a growth, not a layed out town like our newer town sites of the western plains. Main Street was a trail between Selkirk and the Pembina ferry, just travelled, not made, Pembina being the road to the south from whence supplies came, and as the river was the desired frontage, the road followed the bend of the river. Boats were the means of transportation, the Hudson's Bay and North West Company alike used the water as the highway of commerce. There was little attention paid to roads till after 1871, when the rural villages of Fort Garry and Winnipeg were united in one. There was quite a struggle before the name Winnipeg was adopted, it passed first reading of the Legislature as Assiniboia, but the voters of the lower or northern end carried the day and Winnipeg was adopted.

Next in importance to Main Street comes Portage Avenue, said to be the longest street in the world, having a well defined tract of over 800 miles, being the oldest trail to Edmonton. It was no uncommon sight in the early days to see companies travelling over the prairie to Edmonton by ponies. Yes, and even by the old Red River Cart, a vehicle made entirely of wood, a very in-

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genious rig, which could be heard long before they came in sight. Portage Avenue angled off the Main Road which followed the Red River, paralleling the Assiniboine River, and leading from Fort Garry to Fort Reine or Portage la Prairie and other western forts. This was the Portage Road" as distinguished from the River Route, so this trail became Portage Avenue, and an almost unbroken highway from Main Street, Winnipeg, to Edmonton in Alberta. It is a well defined trail still in Edmonton.

Next to Portage Avenue comes Notre Dame or "Our Lady." This important avenue which opened up from the river west was called "Notre Dame." There was a fine Roman Catholic School for girls on this street, east of Main. This school continued until about ten years ago when the Roman Catholic Church built an academy for girls in Crescentwood, south of Maryland bridge, a more commodious and modern building.

The streets between Notre Dame and William Avenues are alphabetically named. We have three A's, Albert, Adelaide and Ann, no B's, but beginning with Charlotte, we have Dagmar, Ellen, Francis, Gertie, Harriett, Isabel. Isabel after Isabel Ross, Juno, Kate, Lydia, Marguerette, now Nena, changed to Sherbrooke. There was a coulee ran down by the Leland Hotel, and as late as twenty-five years ago a bridge spanned Main Street in front of the Union Bank.

"And to perpetuate his fair renown"

There was a street named after him in town."

(Longfellow, Birds of Killingwood.

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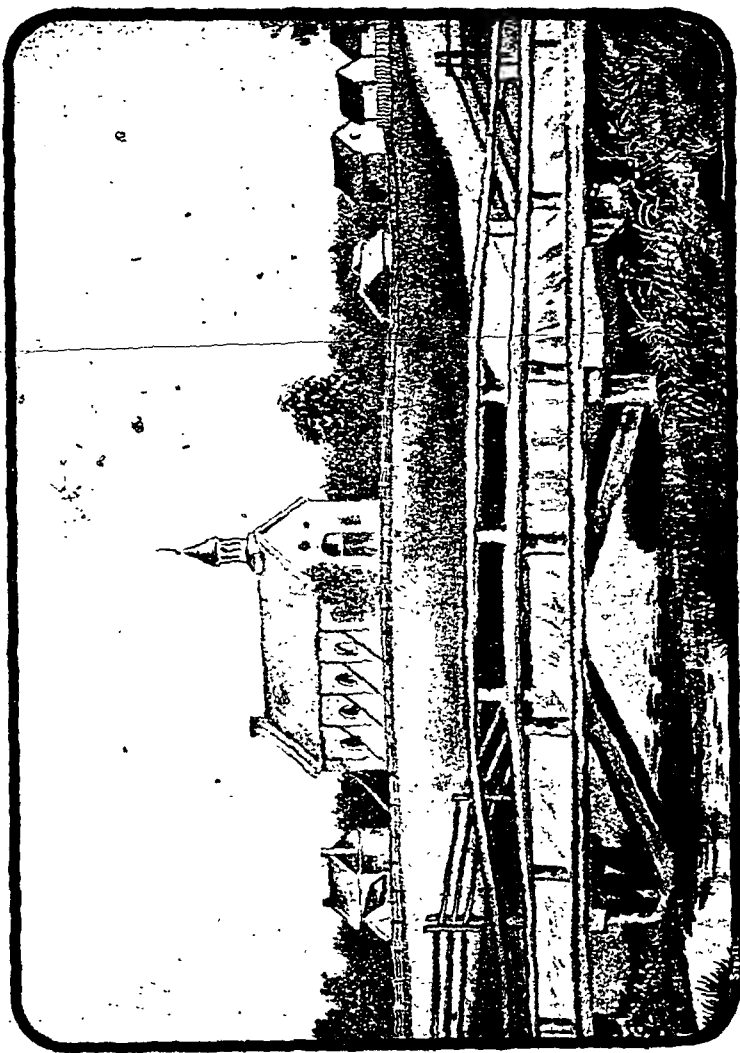
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When Lord Selkirk's first ship-load of Highlanders were enroute for Hudson's Bay, they called at Sligo in Ireland and took on a dozen or more Irish emigrants, among these was Andrew McDermott, a youth of twenty-three. Of these Irish scarcely one remained after the exodus to Ontario, led by Duncan Cameron in the year 1815. Andrew McDermott never once faltered in his allegiance to the Red River, and in time he reaped his reward. After leaving the service of the Hudson's Bay Company, he opened a general store, and soon became a very prosperous man. He married a daughter of trader McNabb and raised a large family, no better informed nor more popular man ever lived on the banks of the Red River than Andrew McDermott. One of his daughters married Governor McTavish, another married the Honorable Bannatyne, for whom Bannatyne Avenue is named. Mr. McDermott, in connection with Mr. Bannatyne, gave as a gift the land on which the General Hospital stands, also the old Post Office site.

Mr. James Bannatyne's farm joined Mr. McDermott's, and so is the next avenue north. Mr. Bannatyne was a member of the first Legislature.

Rorie Street, east of Main, was named for Rorie Bannatyne, and is now the very heart of the wholesale warehouses, a street without sidewalks or boulevards, just a thoroughfare for wholesale houses.

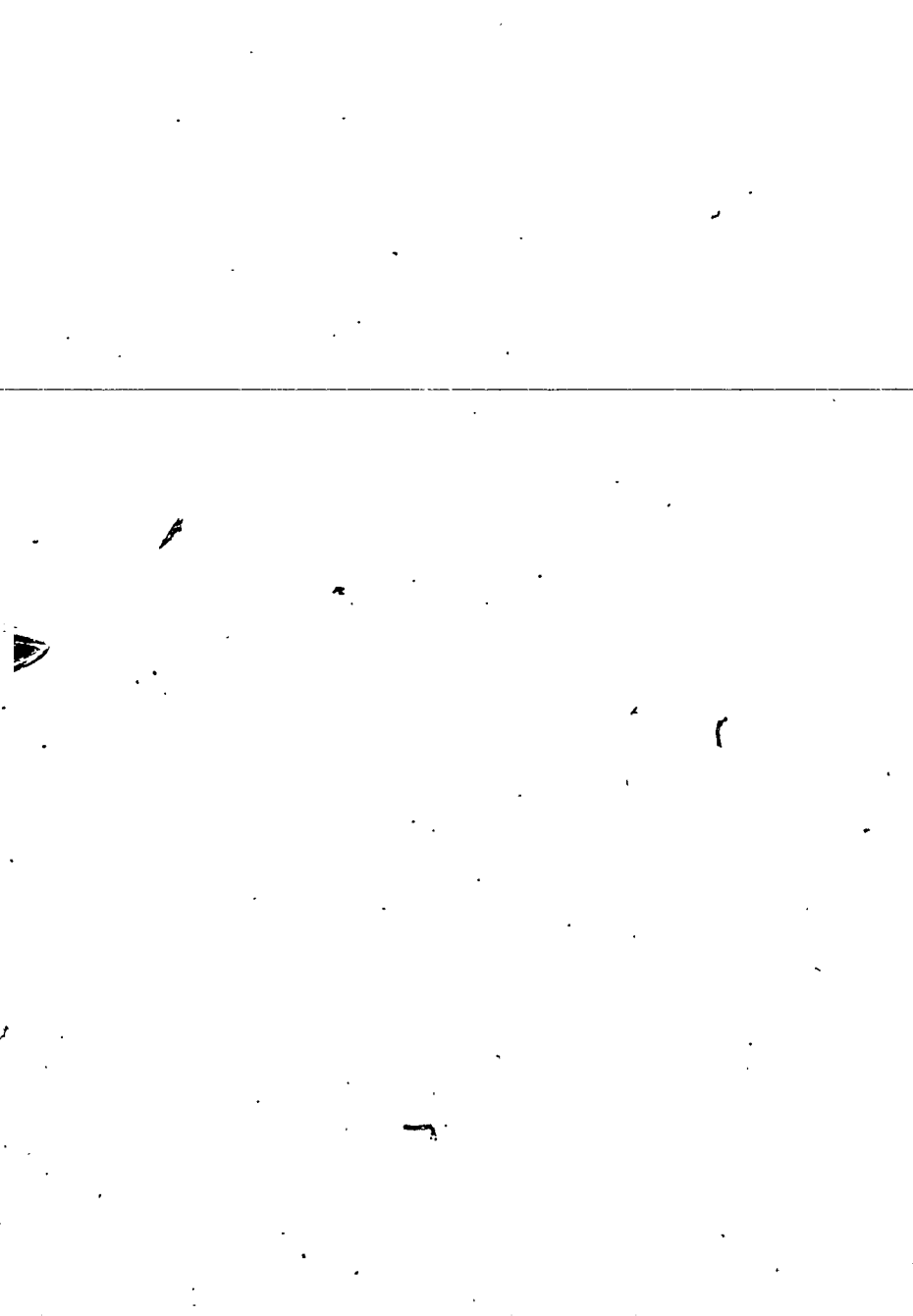
North of Bannatyne was the still larger farm of Alexander Ross. This estate was subdivided lengthwise into three streets, or avenues, as they are now termed, known as William Street, Jemima Street, and Ross



The Church at Middlechurch.

A





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Street. Jemima Street was named after Jemima Ross, a famous hostess in the early days. About the time of the building of St. Andrew's Church the name was changed to Elgin instead of the more historic one of Jemima.

An agent named McWilliam, representing a Toronto firm, bought a strip of land from the north side of the Ross estate, this was commemorated for many years by the name "McWilliam Street," but on account of the confusion arising from the similarity to William the name was changed about 1892 to Pacific Avenue. By a city by-law passed about this time it was decided to term avenues all streets running east and west and the term street is applied to all that run north and south. The streets are numbered from the Assiniboine, and the avenues from the Red River westward.

Colony Gardens, now Victoria Park, was the home of the Ross's, and for years the centre of social life in the colony. The old Ross house still stands at the foot of Pacific Avenue, near the river bank, looking strangely foreign and unrelated to the huge warehouses which are its neighbors.

Alexander Logan owned a large tract north of the Ross place; and his name is given to two streets, Alexander and Logan. The house and most of the trees have disappeared of the old Logan home which, until a few years ago, stood in a beautiful park on the river bank surrounded by magnificent maples planted by the Logan's. This is a very historic spot, here the dead were laid from Seven Oaks; here, too, Lord Selkirk sojourned during his visit to the colony; here, too, can be found

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the remains of an old fort.

George Street, after George Logan, is a continuation of Logan east. It is famous for the Margaret Scott Nurses's Home and the Deaconess's Home.

Robert Street, after Robert Logan, on it is the home of the Associated Charities.

The cross streets were named after the daughters. There was Lily, after Lily Logan, Martha, after Mary Logan, for it was called Mary, not Martha.

Maple Street received its name on account of the splendid maple trees planted by the Logan's and Fonseca's.

James Street was named for James Ross. West of Main Street two leading cross streets are named after Ellen and Isabel Ross, so it is evident the Ross family names are well perpetuated.

Mr. Fonseca, a gentleman of Spanish descent, owned the next block of land. Between the Logan and Fonseca properties these two gentlemen gave a roadway somewhat less than the usual street width, which for many years was known as Common Street, but is now Henry Avenue. Gomez Street is named after the Fonseca's. The old Fonseca house still stands, facing McDonald Street. The large grounds are still covered with trees and lilac bushes, but the family live there no longer.

The Higgins estate ran down into what is now known as Point Douglas. The estate faced the bend of the Red River, and commands one of the prettiest views on the river. The old Higgins house still stands in its old garden. Mr. Higgins was one of the early traders,

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and was in partnership with Mr. Barber, in whose memory there is a street in Point Douglas called Barber Street.

Argyle, Louise, Lorne, and Princess, all commemorate the visit of the Marquis of Lorne when he was Governor of Canada.

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Charles Street, running west of Main Street north, was named after our City Clerk, Charles Brown, and is a cross street north of the subway, as Princess is southwest of Main Street. The subway was a great benefit to Winnipeg. Teams were lined up in early days waiting for the C. P. R. trains to pass. School children coming to the Collegiate often were late waiting on the long trains to pass on.

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### HUDSON'S BAY NAMES.

South of Portage Avenue to the Assiniboine River the whole district was known as the Hudson's Bay Reserve, so naturally its streets received the Company's names, especially the cross streets.

St. Mary's Avenue was named from a boy's school founded by the Roman Catholic Church. The school and St. Mary's Church are well known educational circles still.

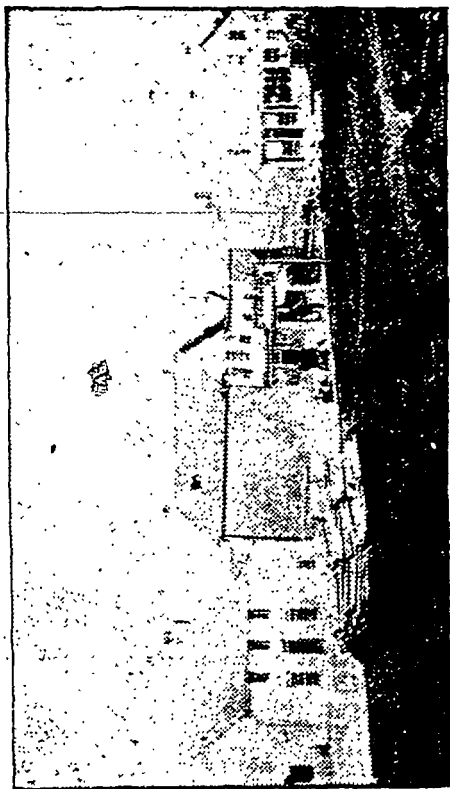
Graham Avenue commemorates the name of James Allan Graham, a Hudson's Bay factor.

York Avenue is named after the York warehouses of the Hudson's Bay Company, as its southern warehouse from York Factory was built here.

Broadway is the first extraneous appellation, and is one of the handsomest of our pretty streets. At one time it crossed Main Street and Broadway Bridge over the Red River to St. Boniface, and was one of the nicest drives, but it was closed to make room for the ever progressive railroad tracks and now only runs east as far as Main Street.

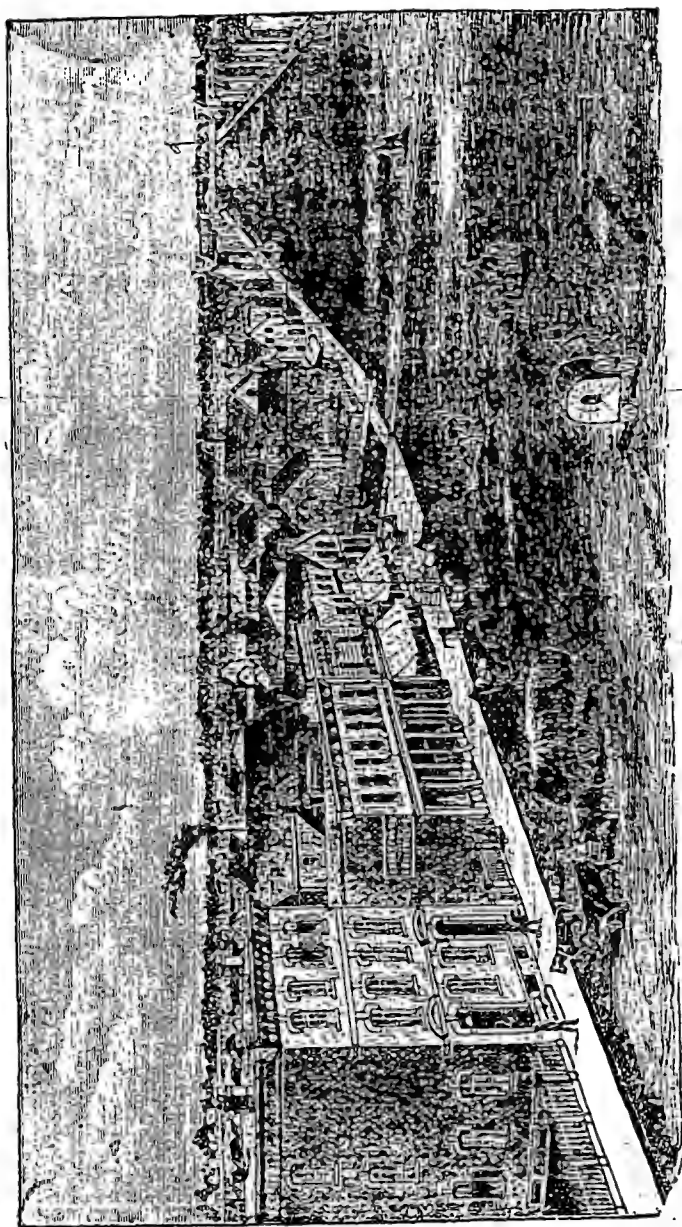
Assiniboine Avenue runs from Main Street to Armstrong's Point, where it winds with the river and takes its name from the river rather than from an Indian tribe.

Much early history is contained in the cross streets



The old City Hall stood where now stands the Bank of Ottawa.

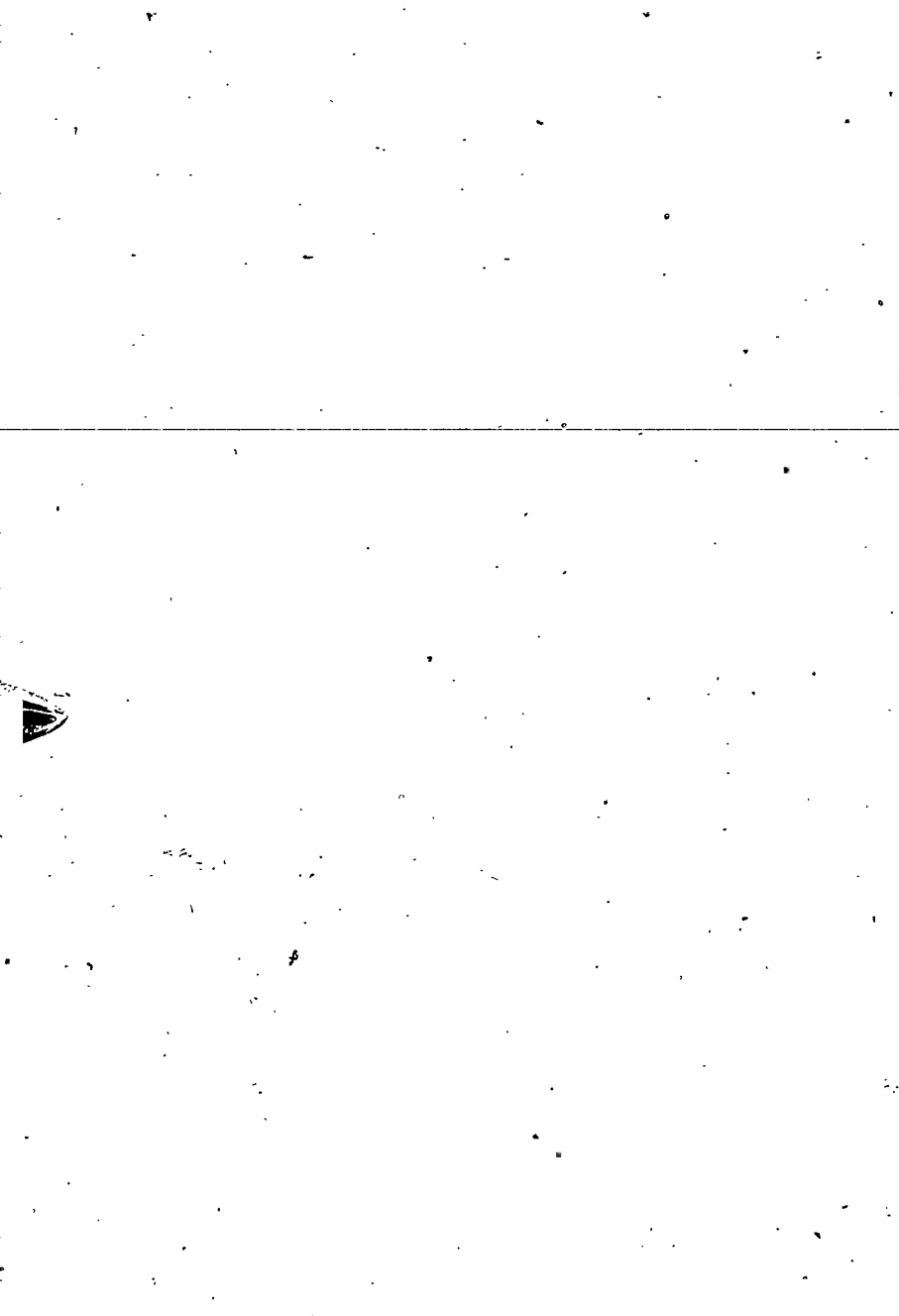




Main Street looking south in 1877

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## THE STREETS OF WINNIPEG

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south of Portage Avenue. Fort Street and Garry Street from the early Fort Garry, after Nicholas Garry.

Smith and Donald Streets are in compliment to Sir Donald Smith, now Lord Strathcona, our High Commissioner in London. We owe much to this man, whose life has been devoted to the development of the Canadian West.

J. G. Hargrave & Son were early Hudson's Bay men. Father and son lived here where Eaton's store now stands.

Carlton and Edmonton were also company men.

Kennedy is named for Colonel Kennedy, whose descendants are still well known citizens of Winnipeg.

Mr. Vaughan was Winnipeg's first surveyor.

Mr. McPhilips was also an early surveyor, and his name was given to the street which for many years was our western city limits.

Colony Creek, of which it would be difficult now to find a trace excepting near Osborn Bridge, is remembered in the name of Colony Street.

Good Street, a one-sided narrow street, is a misnomer.

Balmoral Street was opened in the year 1887 and so commemorated the jubilee of Queen Victoria.

Spence Street was named after a Mr. Spence, who operated a cooper shop on what is now Cooper Street. Descendants of the same name are still living on the old homestead on the banks of the Assiniboine, at the foot of Spence Street. It is one through street from Notre Dame to Assiniboine.

## THE STREETS OF WINNIPEG

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Younge Street runs from Broadway to Notre Dame and was named in memory of one of the pioneer missionaries of the Methodist Church, the Rev. Dr. Young, who lived many happy years on Young Street, close to Notre Dame.

Langside Street was named for James Lang, an old Hudson's Bay employee, married into the Spence family. He was the earliest tinsmith here.

Mr. McMicken was a leading citizen in the early days and a former Mayor of the town.

Colonel Osborne, first military commandant, gave his name to the Street and to a bridge, and the Barracks south of Broadway.

Furby Street and Armstrong's Point were probably named from Colonel Armstrong, who was one of the first settlers on this point.

Sherbrooke Street was a name chosen by the residents of Mulligan Avenue, so named for one of Colonel Caldwell's regiments of fifty men, who were sent from Britain in 1848 on account of the restless state of the French at Fort Garry.

In the western part of the city most of the names are the result of real estate subdivisions of recent date, and have no historical significance.

## THE STREETS OF WINNIPEG

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### SOUTH WINNIPEG, FORT ROUGE.

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Leading southward through Fort Rouge is the oldest street in our city, Pembina Street, being the oldest trail to Fort Pembina, sixty miles away on the southern boundary.

Two derivations are advanced for the name "Pembina," the first is a shortening of the Indian word "Nee-pa Pembina," meaning "here are cranberries"; the other that Pembina is a modification of the French "Pain Benit," meaning "blessed bread," and commemorates the administering of that sacrament by a Jesuit father at the spot which afterwards became Fort Pembina, now Pembina, North Dakota. In early days a ferry over the Assiniboine River connected the Pembina highway with the road to the north, now Main Street.

In Fort Rouge, River Avenue, Roslyn Road, Mayfair Avenue need no explanation, several of the streets and avenues are named for old timers. Wardlow is in honor of Wardlow Taylor, now of Toronto, but for many years a citizen of Winnipeg. The Taylors and Russells owned fine residences on the river bank in what is now known as Wellington Crescent when that magnificent avenue was only a wagon trail through the bush. The river bend of Armstrong's Point makes the south side a cres-

## THE STREETS OF WINNIPEG

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cent. One of our most popular residential streets is Wellington Crescent.

Mulvey Avenue is named in honor of Stewart Mulvey, a much esteemed citizen, for many years chairman of the School Board, and a prominent leader of the Orangement.

McMillan Avenue, some affirm, is named in honor of our former Lieutenant Governor Sir Daniel McMillan, while others claim it is after a family of contractors who built many houses there in the days when C. N. R. cut-offs were unknown.

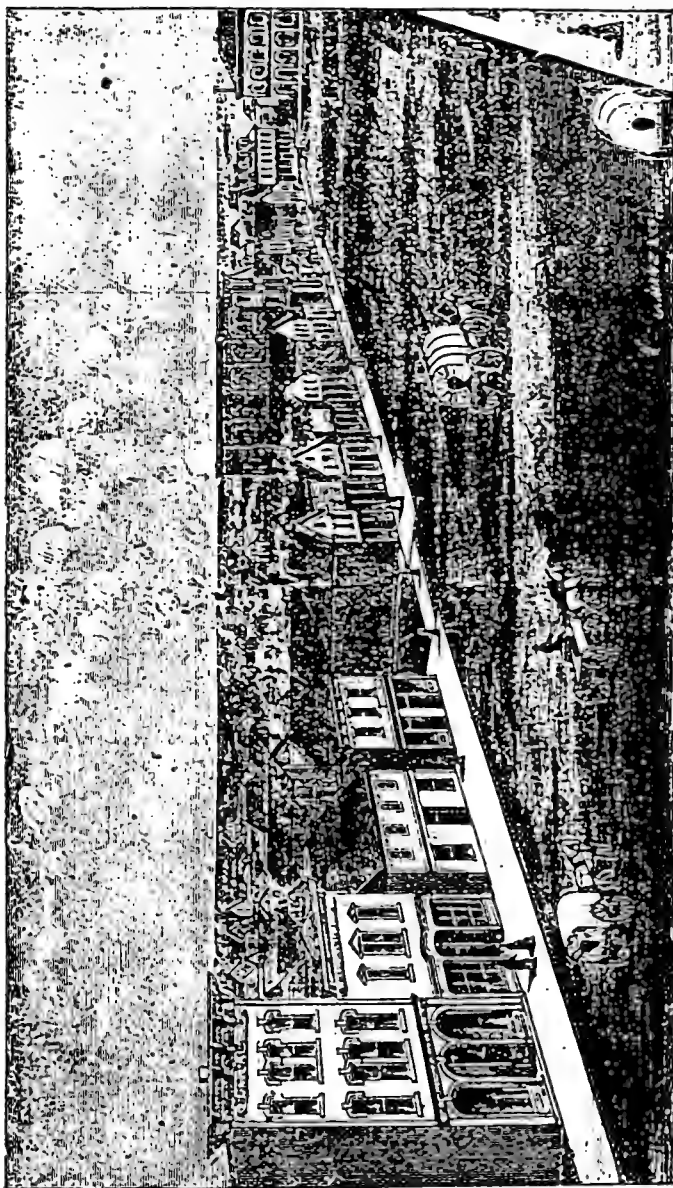
Norquay is in memory of a native born citizen who by his great ability and personality rose to the highest position in the province. Honorable John Norquay was Premier of Manitoba from 1882 till 1888.

Tache doubtless took its name from the Roman Catholic Bishop of St. Boniface. We have a street of that name in St. Boniface. We have two or three beautiful parks and the King Edward Memorial Hospital in this part of the city.

Southern Winnipeg is growing extensively. Crescentwood to the west, and the Agricultural Buildings, Colleges and Schools to the south. Tuxedo Park and University Grounds south of the Assiniboine River are beauty spots.

Cauchon Street off River Avenue is named for Governor Cauchon.

Aikins Street for Governor Aikins. This is a north end street, so is the one called for Governor Schultz in the north end.



Main Street looking north in 1877.



## THE STREETS OF WINNIPEG

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### NORTH WINNIPEG.

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Returning to where we left off at Higgins Street, the first avenue has entirely disappeared under the rails of the Canadian Pacific Railway. This was named Douglas Avenue, running from Main Street into Fort Douglas. This point was a settlement of itself, being divided into small irregular holdings allotted to the soldier contingent. This accounts partly for the maize-like diagram here of streets and cross streets. Every man wanted a river frontage. The centre was a common and the only straight line out was appropriately called Euclid Street.

Many streets have historical names, but were not necessarily named for parties here. D'Israeli Street, Gladstone Street, Lorne Street are examples.

There was a settlement here of people of many nationalities, Swiss, German, French, etc.

Dufferin Avenue marks the visit of Lord Dufferin when he was Governor of Canada.

Selkirk Avenue is one of the many ways in which Lord Selkirk's name is perpetuated.

Next to Selkirk we have Pritchard Avenue, named for John Pritchard, a man who was here before Lord Selkirk. He is mentioned in history as being in charge of the X. Y. Company, a section of the North West Com-



## THE STREETS OF WINNIPEG

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pany, at the mouth of the Souris River in 1805. He left this service and joined the Hudson Bay Garrison. He was a very earnest Christian gentleman.

Rev. John Pritchard was Secretary to Lord Selkirk and a very much beloved friend.

~~Magnus is named for Magnus Brown, one of the~~ early colonists. He owned the estate which is now known as Magnus Avenue. So Burrows Avenue was named after the man who owned the land, now known as Burrows Avenue.

Aberdeen Avenue is named for Lord Aberdeen, Governor General of Canada at one time, and was once the northern limit of the city.

Alfred, Boyd and Redwood are named after the Honorable Alfred Boyd, first Provincial Secretary. He bought the estate from William Inkster. In the early days he had a store on the river bank which the Indians named Redwood on account of the color it was painted.

Now we have Alfred Avenue, Redwood Avenue and Boyd Avenue all called in memory of this man's estate.

St. John's. We move into more sacred ground. College, Church, St. John's and Cathedral are all closely related to the College of St. John's, the Episcopal capital of the city and province. Here we have the names of at least three Bishops of early days. Bishop Mountain, who travelled by boat and portage over the North West Company's route from Montreal to Fort Garry to hold the first confirmation service ever held in Manitoba. He was Bishop of Montreal for many years.

Anderson Avenue, after Bishop Anderson, a

## THE STREETS OF WINNIPEG

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scholarly man, whose picture still hangs in Bishop's Court. A man who so devotedly stood by his school and church during the flood of 1852.

Machray Avenue is named after Bishop Machray, whom most of us still remember as Chancellor of the University of Manitoba, Principal of St. John's College. He was a wrangler in his day from Cambridge. He was also Primate of all Canada.

Polson Avenue. In Polson Avenue we retain the name of an old Kildonan family.

Bannerman and Inkster are named of families still well known. Sheriff Inkster still resides near Seven Oaks.

All these are names we would be loath to surrender for mere empty figures. They commemorate the heroes who made our history, who bravely and hopefully laid the foundations on which we have builded.

There were two villages in the early days, one near where now stands the Royal Alexandra Hotel and the other to the south on Main Street called Fort Garry, where the Hudson's Bay Company carried on their trade.

The Legislative Council, as our Upper House was called, had come into existence on the 10th of May, 1871. Pursuant to the order-in-council of June 23rd, 1870, whereby the North West Territory and Rupert's Land were admitted into the Dominion of Canada.

The first Governor was the Honorable Adam George Archibald. He reached Fort Garry September 30th, 1870, and set about the work of organizing the new province. Lieutenant Governor Archibald associated with him in conducting the government. Mr. Alfred

## THE STREETS OF WINNIPEG

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Boyd was Provincial Secretary and Max Gerard Provincial Treasurer until elections could be held and representative government established. The first session of the Legislature took place on March 15th, 1871.

Winnipeg was incorporated as a Town in 1873.

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## THE STREETS OF WINNIPEG

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### THE PARISHES.

These subdivisions of Assiniboia were either natural or religious, formed as the settlements grew into centres along the river banks both northward and southward.

#### KILDONAN.

The first parish was Kildonan where Lord Selkirk definitely located the colonists and apportioned the land during his first and only visit to the Red River in 1817. It was so named from his home in Scotland. It is situated to the north of St. John's, and is the oldest parish. Here many of the old pioneers are buried.

## THE STREETS OF WINNIPEG

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### ST. JOHN'S PARISH.

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The first Protestant Church in the country was built in St. John's Parish. Rev. John West, the first Chaplain, arrived in 1820 and visited all the Hudson's Bay Company's posts baptizing and marrying. The first recorded baptism is "William Bunn, son of Thomas and Phoebe Bunn, September 9th, 1820."

St. John's has remained the centre of the Episcopalian Church. Here the Bishop's Court still remains and St. John's University and Boy's School. The churchyard is filled with names of men and women who made our early history.

### THE PARISH OF ST. ANDREWS.

In 1825 a most zealous missionary arrived in the settlement, Rev. William Cochrane, who erected the first church at the rapids. Thus began St. Andrew's Parish. After this St. John's was known as the Upper Church and St. Paul's as the Middle Church.

## THE STREETS OF WINNIPEG

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### ST. BONIFACE.

The second parish to be named was St. Boniface. The company of German soldiers—"The De Meuron Regiment," sent from Montreal for the purpose of recapturing Fort Douglas from the North West Company, was retained by Lord Selkirk for the protection of the colonists. He settled the company on the east bank of the Red River, north of the Seine, where they remained until driven away by the great flood of 1826. This suburb they named St. Boniface, after their patron saint, and later, when the first Roman Catholic Mission was established in the same place by Father Provencher and Father Dumoulin in 1813, the name was applied to the Parish. This suburb was named St. Boniface by Archbishop Tache, whose name is given to a street in St. Boniface.

St. Boniface is famous for its lovely Cathedral, historic graveyard, Indian Schools and University Classics, also the hospitals which stand on the east side of the river.

"The voyageur smiles as he listens  
To the sound that grows apace,  
Well he knows the vesper ringing  
Of the bells of St. Boniface."

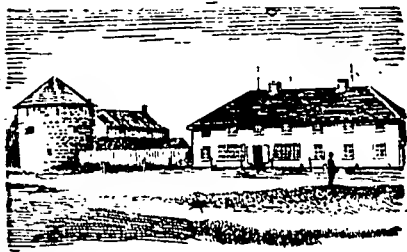
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## THE STREETS OF WINNIPEG

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### ST. PAUL'S PARISH.

The Parish of St. Paul is situated north of St. John's. Rev. J. West was the first Chaplain. The new church was opened in 1825. There were one hundred and twenty-six attending and only six communicants. Mr. Jones labored fifteen years and then returned to England. On his return he built the large stone church at St. Andrew's. It still stands as a monument to the courage and strength of Archdeacon Cochrane. St. Paul's is situated half way between St. John's and St. Andrew's and was known as Middle Church, a name which it still retains. There was an Indian School here, but it was burned and has never been rebuilt. The Old Folks' Home is here.



Corner of Old Fort Garry





## THE STREETS OF WINNIPEG

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### ST. CHARLES' PARISH.

The Parish of St. Charles was established in 1816. La Verandrye gave the name St. Charles to the Assiniboine River. After the troubles of 1816 Cuthbert Grant and his followers settled down to farming on the Banks of this river, forming what is now the Parish of St. Francois Xavier.

### PARISH OF ST. PETER'S.

Rev. William Cochrane built a church among the Indians, naming it St. Peter's, where he did much good work evangelizing the natives. In 1857 he further established a mission at the old site of Fort Reiné, forming the nucleus of the present Portage la Prairie.

Rev. Mr. Hunter labored in this parish. This is the farthest north of the parishes being now beyond the Town of Selkirk.

## THE STREETS OF WINNIPEG

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### THE PARISH OF ST. JAMES.

This title is not only Episcopal, it is civic as well. for deeds issued are described as St. John's or St. James. or any other, as the case may be. St. James is west of the Parish of St. John's and runs past the city limits. As we have an Episcopal Church here it is called St. James, and it is to these churches the parishes owe their names. The settlers moving west made the distance to St. John's school an impossible task for children to attend the school. In 1853 the church was commenced and was completed in 1855. Shortly afterwards the school was built, which has long since disappeared. The graveyard contains the names of many of the old families of Winnipeg.

The first rector was Rev. W. H. Taylor, next was Rev. C. Pinkham, now Bishop of Calgary. After this Rev. A. E. Cowley was in charge for twenty-eight years. Rev. Mr. Armstrong is the present rector.

Since writing this he has passed away.

## THE STREETS OF WINNIPEG

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### THE FLOODS.

Some affirm they were periodical. Some say they were or are due to certain natural causes, which any year might occur, If they have a steady north wind for many days and the creeks and rivers are high, then freeze over, as the mouth is north, with heavy snow fall in Dakota and southern Manitoba, we are in good shape for a flood. The snow melts ere the mouth of the Red River is opened, so the ice accumulating forms a barrier. Some years ago they tried to break these ice-jams with dynamite, but were not very successful.

We have authentic accounts of five floods, but the first one we know very much about occurred in 1826, and a great many of the early settlers left for the United States, principally the De Meurons from St. Boniface, and the Swiss from Point Douglas. On the 24th of June, 1826, two hundred and forty-three took their departure. In the flood of 1826 only one man was drowned that we have any note of.

## THE STREETS OF WINNIPEG

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We have a very full account of the flood of 1852, which is said to be the fifth flood, but by far the most disastrous. On the 7th of May, 1852, the water had risen eight feet above high-water-mark of ordinary years. It overflowed the banks of the river and began to spread devastation and ruin in the settlement. Boats and canoes were in great request for the saving of lives and property. Some had to take shelter in the garrets, some on stages, some here and some there, awaiting boats to carry them to a place of safety. From one hundred and fifty yards wide, the usual breadth of the river, it spread to six miles, and for several days it rose at the rate of one inch per hour. On the 12th of May half the colony was under water, and a clean of all fencing and loose property for a distance of twenty miles in length, not one inhabitant was left. On the 22nd of May the water had reached its height.

Mr. Ross says: "It was a strange coincidence that on the same day of the month twenty-six years previously the water had been at its height but eighteen inches higher than the time of which we now write." In 1826 only one man was drowned that we have any notice of, so in 1852 we have but one. Nothing to be seen of the twenty-six years of labor of man and beast, hastening to be engulfed in Lake Winnipeg. Many houses gone, many deprived of their all. Three thousand five hundred souls abandoned their all, no crop that year. A whole month elapsed before they could return to their desolate homes and begin the work of rebuilding or repairing, as the case might be.

## THE STREETS OF WINNIPEG

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Silver Heights, Little Stony Mountain and Strong Hill, and the northern banks of the Assiniboine River were the rendezvous of the flood-stricken people.

In the midst of the suffering attendant on such a calamity it is pleasing to notice the efforts of Governor Caldwell to relieve the sufferings of the settlers, ably assisted by Bishop Anderson and Dr. Black, of Kildonan.

Bishop Anderson's little book "Notes of the Flood at Red River" is a wonderful record of Christian unselfishness and genuine goodness. Although he writes so beautifully of his trust in God, yet he preached from Isaiah 18. 2, "Whose lands the rivers have spoiled." The upper district of St. James was untouched. The flood was very severe in Upper and Middle Church districts, where his schools were situated. He writes, "My own suffering was greater from having so much on my hands. There were sixty to provide for daily. My own household with the collegiate school. I also had the care of St. Cross, a ladies' school. Doubtless, had I attempted less my pain at the present moment would have been smaller."—From his diary.

In the year 1881 is the date of the last flood. It was not nearly so serious as the one of 1852. It was more restricted to the Assiniboine district, or lands drained by the Assiniboine. It flooded the farms to the south of the Assiniboine, compelling the settlers to find safety in boats. On the slough it rose up to the top of the banks, and part of the road was submerged. In the City of Winnipeg the cellars along Main Street were flooded and considerable damage done.

## THE STREETS OF WINNIPEG

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When the river rises high, the pressure is great, and being a flat country, we have to take the utmost care to obtain good drainage.

Our Red River is now famous for its magnificent locks built at St. Andrew's, and in a few years we hope to see steamers from Great Britain and other countries at our new wharves in Winnipeg.

